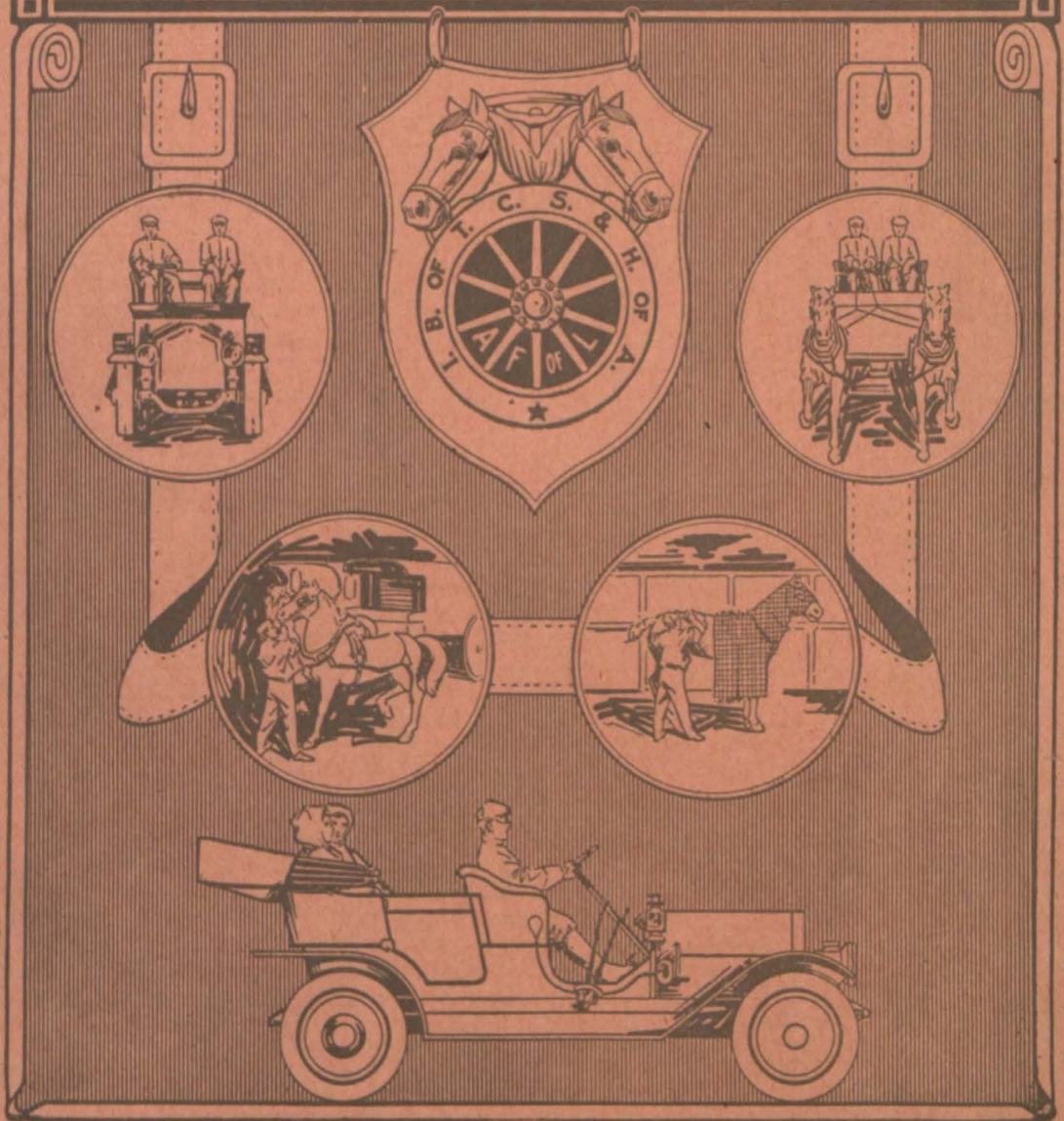


OCTOBER, 1914

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS
OF AMERICA



Sometimes when unions have nothing else to do—no quarrel with their employers, no wage scale up, and no trouble on of any kind, they start a fight among themselves. The greatest curse that can befall a union is internal dissension. Unmanly, dishonorable, mean, is the individual who, for spite, is continually making trouble in a local union and who in many instances is successful in destroying the organization in order that he might obtain something to satisfy his spiteful disposition. Honest disagreement is something to be admired, but continual nagging and haggling over something that amounts to very little, is quite different from honest disagreement, and while the individual himself responsible for this condition may not know it, the truth is that the majority of the members attending the meetings become so thoroughly disgusted with this uneducational controversy that they stay away from the meetings and lose interest in their local union and in time become dissatisfied to such an extent that the union suffers greatly. Why can not men see this matter from this standpoint? Why can not the majority shut out those who are continually making trouble? Why can not the members who are guilty of this kind of procedure realize what they are doing and not be lowering their dignity and losing their prestige by continually disgusting their fellow members with their petty, spiteful arguments.

Some unions still have a foolish idea that they are fooling the International Office or deceiving the International Office by calling a strike a lockout. We are pretty well posted in this office as to the difference between a strike and a lockout. We can hardly be deceived, because we have paid for our experience, and a local union that believes that because it is isolated or because it is in a place away from Headquarters, that it can bluff the International Office by calling a strike a lockout are much mistaken. Where an employer refuses to sign an agreement although every other employer in the district has signed said agreement and the business agent of the local the next morning visits the place of employment of this employer and calls the men off the job—this is not a lockout. It is a strike brought on by the business agent without the sanction of the International Office, and in such a case the men are not entitled to benefits. To be brief, a lockout is a case where men are ordered off the premises in a body and told to remain off the premises because they belong to a labor union. Any local union that we find, and we nearly always do find it out, who has received financial benefits from the International Office because of the fact that they have represented a lockout to have taken place where it was a clear case of a strike, such a local union is thereby defrauding the International union and wherever the proof is placed in the hands of the International, the local union shall be held responsible for its action and the officers or individuals who have brought this about can be expelled from the general organization by the General Executive Board for such misrepresentation as an action of this kind is just about the same as stealing the funds of the International organization.

Since our last issue Local Union No. 753, Milk Wagon Drivers of Chicago, has added another link to its chain of appropriations to local unions in need of assistance by donating to the chauffeurs of Chicago \$500.00 to help them pay their per capita tax, and also \$500.00 to the laundry drivers of Chicago. If there is any union in the country that deserves to be called a generous-giving local it is certainly due to Local No. 753. They always have their hand out to help some sister local union or good cause that needs help, and at the same time are continually climbing up and increasing in strength both numerically and financially.

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MINIMIZING LABOR DIFFICULTIES



WHETHER the Industrial Relations Commission will find a panacea for labor unrest, unemployment and all the other ills that have grown up in our present industrial system remains to be seen. The personnel of the commission and the thoroughness with which it has gone to work thus far, however, gives color to the belief that it may arrive at some conclusions which will at least be interesting to both employers and employees. The chairman of the commission, Mr. F. P. Walsh, is of the opinion that the goal of industrial democracy and peace can be reached mainly through "a readjustment of mental attitudes." He believes that if every employer could get labor's point of view and vice versa, constructive remedies would be able to take care of themselves. Speaking recently along this line, he said:

"One of the ideas that the commission must attack most vigorously is the notion that an employer is only an employer and that organized labor is just a powerful, fighting organization. Organized labor consists of several millions of men, women and children—interesting, hopeful, appealing human beings, banded to-

gether in an attempt to improve their lot. And an employer is not just a pursuer of profits. He also is a human being. If the directors of a large corporation that was fighting the union during a strike could visit the assembly halls of the union and see there the families gathered together, could witness the sacrifices and heroisms and the fellowship, they would cease being directors and become just men, and they would understand the strike as never before. No employer, challenging with all his resources the right of a union to exist, could talk so coolly of fundamental principles if only he had visited the strikers' colonies, not as a corporation director, not as an employer, not as a representative of capital, but as a human being, reacting to the hopes and aspirations and sorrows of other human beings. He would understand then that fine-spun principles have nothing to do with it; that it is a struggle for more freedom, for better lives on the part, not of the mine workers, not of 'organized labor,' but of men and women and children.

"It will be a pity if our wage earners take it for granted that certain recent utterances regarding the recognition of the union are representative of the average employer's attitude. It has been gratifying and inspiring for this commission to hear very large em-

ployers testify to the moral, economic and social uplifting of men and women and children under union influence. The commission hopes to have the testimony of a very large number of employers from coast to coast, and to prove to labor and to employers that being an employer does not prevent a man from understanding labor, nor does it require him to live up to the role that has been set for him by a hazy, false classification of men into employers and employes."

With these words of the chairman of the Industrial Relations Commission no one will be disposed to quarrel. It occurs to us, however, that as things stand today it would seem as though workingmen understand the average employer's attitude much more clearly than the latter does that of labor. As a rule the employers' attitude toward trade unionism is far from being one of brotherly love; it is much more likely to be one of bitter antagonism. Trade unionism and anarchy are synonymous terms in the minds of many employers who can not be brought to see the good that trade unions do and the benefits they confer on the workers. If Mr. Walsh can ultimately bring such men to see the justice of labor's claims the Industrial Relations Commission will perform a great public service.—Carpenter.

"WHITE SLAVES" OF THE COTTON MILLS



THE attention of organized labor is directed to the splendid struggle being waged for the liberation of the "white slaves" in the cotton mills of the South. In the city of Atlanta, Ga., in the "Empire State of the South," where child labor laws are the worst in any State in the

union, or in any civilized country in the world, the cotton workers have organized, and revolted against the intolerable conditions imposed upon them by the Fulton Bag and Cotton Co. and under the directions of Organizer Miles are fighting for the elimination of child labor, recognition of the union, and the establishment of a fifty-four-hour work week.

The Fulton Bag and Cotton

Company, is supported by the Southern Cotton Manufacturers' Association and the National Manufacturers' Association and are resorting to the cruelest tactics in their efforts to break the strike. It has been the rule of this company to hold back a week's wage, and when the workers struck, they had from a week to nine days' pay due; this money the company declared forfeited on the grounds that the strikers left without notice. Credit was cut off at the store, and starvation was immediately upon them. They are being evicted from the company's shacks by hired "niggers," and are blacklisted in the mills, intimidated in every possible way to force them back in subjection to the company.

For weeks before the strike, efforts were made by the employees' committee to get a conference with the mill officials, but they absolutely refused to meet any committee. Under these circumstances the United Textile Workers of America, the Georgia Federation of Labor and the Atlanta Federation of Trades have determined to come to the assistance of the cotton mill workers, and make this strike a national issue, the success of which

will eliminate for all time the disgraceful conditions of servitude imposed upon the textile workers in the cotton mills of the South.

Much has been written in an effort to describe the abject poverty of the textile workers in the southern cotton mills, but neither tongue nor pen is adequate to describe the awful wretchedness of their existence. Men, women and little children, thousands and thousands of them, are in a chronic state of poverty, always on the border of starvation from childhood to the grave.

Working in the company's mill, dwelling in the company's shacks, dealing at the company store, owned body, soul and boots by the company, they are robbed and exploited to the limit. Father, mother and little ones sacrificed to the cotton Juggernaut, crushed and broken in mind and body, they are fed to the flying wheels of the cotton mill, and spun into profits for the company.

Organized labor, all men worthy the name, should give their fullest moral and financial support to the fight, and blot out for all time this cruel injustice to the men, women and children in the cotton industry.

MASSACHUSETTS ANTI-INJUNCTION BILL BECOMES A LAW



GOVERNOR Walsh of Massachusetts has signed the anti-injunction bill recently passed by both branches of the Massachusetts legislature, and Massachusetts is the first State in the Union to place in its code democratic and modern ideals relative to personal rights.

The theory that property rights are supreme is overthrown, and the position so insistently maintained by the American Federation of Labor is sustained in an act that

draws a clear line between workers and the products of their labor, and sweeps aside the dictum that one man has a property right in another's service.

Attorney-General Boynton failed to find anything unconstitutional about the anti-injunction bill, and in response to an inquiry by the State Senate, said: "The bill contemplates a radical change in our law and a new departure in the public policy of the commonwealth, but the right of property to the protection of the writ of injunction is a statutory right and is not guaranteed by the constitution. The re-

sult of my examination of authorities in connection with your inquiry is that I do not find that the bill is obnoxious to any constitutional provision."

In urging the passage of the bill, Senator Sheehan said: "The American Federation of Labor is only asking in this bill the right it supposed its members always had in this State—freedom of speech and the right to meet in lawful assembly."

The new law is as follows:

"An act to make lawful certain agreements between employes and laborers, and to limit the issuing of injunctions in certain cases.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

"Section 1. It shall not be unlawful for persons employed or seeking employment to enter into any arrangements, agreements or combinations with the view of lessening the hours of labor or of increasing their wages or bettering their condition; and no restraining order or injunction shall be granted by any court of the commonwealth of Massachusetts or by any judge thereof in any case between an employer and employes, or between employers and employes, or between persons employed and persons seeking employment, or involving or growing out of a dispute concerning terms or conditions of employment, or any act or acts done in pursuance thereof, unless said injunction be necessary to prevent irreparable injury to property or to a property right of the party making the application, for which there is no adequate remedy at law; and such property or property right must be particularly described in the application which must be sworn to by the applicant or by his agent or attorney.

"In construing this act, the right

to enter into the relation of employer and employe to change that relation, and to assume and create a new relation for employer and employe, and to perform and carry on business in such relation with any person in any place, or to do work and labor as an employe, shall be held and construed to be a personal and not a property right. In all cases involving the violation of the contract of employment by either the employe or employer where no irreparable damage is about to be committed upon the property or property right of either, no injunction shall be granted, but the parties shall be left to their remedy at law.

"Sec. 2. No person or persons who are employed or seeking employment or other labor shall be indicted, prosecuted or tried in any court of the commonwealth of Massachusetts for entering into any arrangements, agreements, or combinations between themselves as such employes or laborers, made with a view of lessening the number of hours of labor or increasing their wages or bettering their condition, and for any act done in pursuance thereof unless such act is in itself unlawful."

The anti-injunction law just passed declares that the carrying on of a business and the performance of services are personal and not property rights.

This is the first time a State has taken this position, which is most significant, as it indicates the mighty mental changes men are undergoing, and clearly indicates a gradual abandonment of all feudalistic, slave-holding and serfdom theories that have filtered through the ages and have served to stamp the brand of ownership, even though dimly, on the brow of those who toil.

Our courts have not been free from this ownership germ, and while agreeing in the abstract with

freedom's theory, injunction judges have based their action on this belief in property rights as applied to labor, which is now thrown in the judicial ash heap by Massachusetts legislative action.

The long list of injunctions, issued only in times of strike, bear testimony to the abuses heaped on the men of labor by those who have disregarded every constitutional guaranty.

Massachusetts has made legislative history in its declaration for personal liberty.

Workers have been placed on a different plane by our legislators and courts. We have been denied rights ungrudgingly accorded others. Too often Blind Justice has not been blind when injunction relief is asked. If workers are to be enjoined in times of strike, the request is granted, even though law covers the case. If other classes of citizens are to be enjoined, the complainant is told equity cannot aid him, if law covers the case.

It is this inequality that the Eastern State has righted, and the injunction judge and those who profit by his practices have received a blow from which they will never recover.

The advanced position taken by Massachusetts will be followed by other States, now that "the ground is broken." It is only a question of time until other States accept the newly-declared theory of personal and property rights—of a difference between the worker and his product.

This doctrine elevates workers to their full social stature, and its effect will be noted in every field of activity, but more especially in courts of justice and in legislative halls where the voice of those who toil will hereafter strike a more responsive chord.

The injunction features of the new law are similar to the injunction sections of the Clayton anti-

trust bill, pending in the United States Senate. The action of the Massachusetts legislature and governor will strengthen the hands of those senators who are friendly to the cause of labor, and will inspire trade unionists everywhere to greater effort in their work of creating public opinion, by public meetings, resolutions and letters, to the end that the Senate pass the Clayton bill, as approved by the House, at this session of Congress. —Painter and Decorator.

The successful leader makes self-sacrifice as a matter of course. Results do not "happen" by chance. The harvest can not be expected without plowing and planting. The fools who have tried to make perpetual motion machines were wise men in comparison with the hopeless dreamers who expect a local union to run itself. No man has any right to occupy the president's chair unless he is giving thought and effort to his work—and enough good, honest time outside of the meetings to make his efforts count. No one can do an hour's work in five minutes' time.

And to him who so labors shall success come, for this ability to manage and direct others, known as "executive ability," can find no better opportunity than in the local union meeting and no more beneficial results than in the making of an active organization where all bear their part of a harmonious working whole.

Industrial depression is an economic disease, due to low wages and long hours of labor; it is due to the employment of children and young persons in occupations for which they are not physically fitted. Long hours and low wages undermine and restrict the purchasing power of the workers; the employment of children and young persons deprives the husband and father of steady employment.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

THE war is still on. There seems to be very little hope for a speedy settlement. In the meantime, although we are not in the war zone, we are suffering slightly from the effects of the war. There is a general depression in business in the eastern portion of our country. I look for still worse conditions next winter should the war continue. The very fact that the stock markets of the country are being closed up, something that has not happened before in years, will have a tendency to paralyze the nation's industries. There are hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of stock in the hands of financiers and others that must remain there and can not be turned into money. There are thousands of business men who will find it hard to obtain sufficient money to keep their business running because they have investments that they can not turn into cash. Although we are liable to have a bad winter and spring as a result of non-employment; although it looks black now there is always hope for a settlement of the war and betterment of conditions. The nations involved in this death-like struggle may be forced in some way to listen to peace arguments within the near future. The enormous expense to each nation for carrying on the war is almost incomprehensible. From the standpoint of human lives and from the amount of money it takes each day, it would seem as though it would be impossible to continue it very long. However, some of our greatest war experts encourage us by telling us to look for a long-drawn-out conflict. In other words, that there is no sign of a speedy settlement. But, bad as it all is with us, we are, indeed, a most fortunate nation because of the fact that we are not involved in this fearful affair. At least, in this country we can sleep at night without being afraid of being murdered in our sleep by shells dropping on our household. Imagine, if you can, the condition of the countries where war is raging, where corn fields and vegetation of all kinds has been destroyed, where in the cities and towns nothing but misery and hunger prevail, besides having the best blood of the people offered up every day in the unholy warfare.

Wealth or position even in those countries is no guarantee of safety. The rich, of course, will make some provision for getting something to eat when the poor must starve, but as far as safety is concerned, there is no safety for any one. After the war is over whoever lives will also be made to suffer, endeavoring to put back in order the countries where everything has been destroyed. It is good to be in this country at this time. It is, indeed, sufficient cause to rejoice to be in the United States, and to the men who are responsible for this peace existing, the gratitude of the nation should always be tendered freely. It is, indeed, ridiculous to look back over some of the newspapers published six months ago and read the desperate things that were being said about our Washington administration because of its refusal to become involved in war with Mexico. Criticism of the meanest kind from men who are supposed to be better educated than the average person was piled high against the administration. President Wilson, if he has done nothing else, except to keep us from killing other men

and destroying another country, has accomplished wonders. We should rejoice that we are at peace. We should be happy that we are having at least a prosperous year in so far as the crops are concerned. We should not be discouraged, but should at this time especially, practice the strictest economy, saving every ten-cent piece that we can possibly save to provide for ourselves during the winter and spring, and, above all, try to have no stoppage of work brought on by a strike in any place until this controversy is ended.

I THINK this will be the last of the great wars. Perhaps this has been said before in other days by other men. Undoubtedly numerous wise men have made this statement, but as this is the greatest of the great wars that we have ever read of and it involves the lives of more human beings and the expenditure of more money, over practically nothing, as there was nothing of a serious nature at issue; nothing that could not have been settled without war, I think we are safe in saying that this will have a tendency to end war. The action of the United States in signing peace treaties with many important nations proves conclusively that the pace has been set by the intellectual men of the world. War must stop after this. Workers will not consent to it any more. It is just as well for us to have revolution as to have war. We might just as well be mowed down by our own government as to be mowed down by a foreign government and be driven from one country to another to kill our fellow human beings. The men in the forefront of the nations of the earth are responsible for the war now on; for the lives of the millions of men whose blood is flowing in Europe. They blame labor organizations for not arbitrating the differences that involve an increase in wages, which means an added chance for the women and children of the country. The people of the country blame us for striking and say we will not arbitrate, then why is it that the highest class in the world, educationally and every other way, have not brains enough to arbitrate something that involves the destruction of civilization? After this war is over, it seems to me that some of the kings who are responsible for it will be looking for jobs. I think if we had more republics such as the United States we would have fewer wars. I think that the working classes will assert themselves a little stronger after the war is over and perhaps be successful in arriving at the conclusion, that there is no need of war.

I WAS reading in a paper the other day where in several countries, and especially in England and Australia, city governments and town corporations are taking hold of the staple foods, that is, handling said staple foods and selling them at a nominal cost, thereby protecting the people against extortionate scalpers who take advantage of every situation to make an extra dollar. It seems to me that if this thing can be done in time of war it can be done in times of peace as well, and if it is being done in London, England, and Sydney, Australia, and other places throughout the continent of Europe, why could it not be done here? During the terrible fire in San Francisco, as a result of the earthquake, according to accounts given us by Vice-President Casey, something similar to this stated above was done in that city. The Melbourne government has passed a law tell-

ing those who furnish large supplies of food what they shall charge for such staple articles. They have made the price on flour, meat and sugar, thereby preventing open robbery of the people. It seems to me that this is just what we need in this country at this time. We have more flour, or rather more wheat, than we ever had. We have sufficient meat to send a lot of it into other countries and we have more sugar than we ever had before, still the price of those articles has been increased considerably, over night, if you please, as a result of the war. We have perhaps a different situation or a different condition confronting us than they have in other countries. Our chain of States each maintain their separate rights and the national government can not interfere with State rights unless they go beyond a certain distinct line. Again, our government is accomplishing a whole lot for us, and it is too much to expect the government to be able to do everything, but without any intention toward unjust criticism, it seems to me that in an acute situation, such as confronts us at the present time, the millionaires who control the staple foods should be prevented from raising the prices as they have, and this is true down along the line to the retailer, who is openly robbing the multitude. The great trouble in this country is, that each political party is looking for its own success and each political party is in need of every little help that they can obtain. The lines are so closely drawn and the margins are practically so small that the party in power in either the State or Nation does not dare make the fight even in the interest of the millions. But we are gradually getting away from this position, and we have had, what is called by the few rich people, more radical legislation within the last year than we have had for fifty years before, even though we are still in need of further so-called radical legislation and something to be done to prevent our being held up and being charged prices that are unfair and unreasonable for the things that we need every day in our homes. Some legislation preventing this condition is absolutely necessary at the present time.

IN the September issue of the American Federationist a letter is published which was written by ex-President Taft, in which the following statement appears:

"I think labor organizations have had a tendency to reduce to a dead level all wage-earners in the same branches of industry, and to repress the motive for greater industry and greater skill involved in a difference in wages for individuals. It can never do good in a community to have the shiftless derive the same reward as those who exercise the prudential virtues. Some way must be found to avoid this deadening of individual effort.

"Then labor unions have frequently tended to factionalism. Factionalism means that spirit which would sacrifice the interests of the entire community to the supposed exclusive benefit of one class. The lenity with which leaders of organized labor have regarded unlawful and criminal acts committed in the assumed interest of labor is a symptom of this. The effort to paralyze by legislation the arm of courts to restrain lawlessness, the secondary boycott, the blacklist and other pernicious instrumentalities for winning industrial controversies is a short-sighted policy that I hope labor unions will learn to be unwise."

Is it any wonder that the gentleman named above, who is a very brilliant scholar and a man who has had exceptional opportunities for broadening his mind, is there, I say, any wonder, that he should have been successful in disrupting the party who made him the first man of the nation, and that he was ignominiously defeated for President of the United States in the last election?

In the same issue appears a statement from Theodore Roosevelt, also ex-President of the United States, and the man who was responsible principally for making Mr. Taft President, which is as follows. Read this carefully:

"I believe in workmen's compensation. I believe in the eight-hour day for men in continuous industries and for women and children everywhere, and eventually for all workers in all industries. I believe in social insurance. I believe in minimum wage legislation for those industries in which labor is not itself in a position to enforce fair living conditions. I believe in unions. I believe that labor organizations have been one of the greatest factors in improving the material and moral conditions of the wage-earner and in raising the standard of industrial citizenship. The union is as necessary an outgrowth of our modern industrial system as is the corporation. The wise and far-sighted employer will recognize this fact. He will appreciate that the men in the employ of a great corporation have the right of collective bargaining."

"When employers show themselves callous to the public needs, short-sighted and greedy of their own profit without regard to the welfare of the wage workers, it is essential that the community shall exercise its collective power, and by prompt national legislative action supply a remedy for the conditions of work and life among the employees."

There is no need of publishing anything from the statement of the real President, Woodrow Wilson, as actions speak louder than words. He has done things by advocating legislation favorable to the workers and by the appointment of the representatives of labor on boards, commissions and other important positions where they would be capable of doing good for the toiling masses of the Nation.

EVERY now and then we hear an argument from some one who really knows but one side of the case, in favor of compulsory arbitration. It usually comes from the man who has had his business interfered with more or less as a result of a strike. It usually comes from a man who does not know the struggle of the workers. The labor movement stands opposed to compulsory arbitration, because it would drive us back to slavery. If compulsory arbitration, which would mean the abolition of strikes, prevailed, the workers would have to remain at work whether they wanted to or not. In other words, they could not stop work at the call of their union. They could not stop work under any pretext which would mean that they resented conditions under which they were working. We also every now and then hear of the splendid conditions prevailing in New Zealand where compulsory arbitration is in force. Read the following statement from one who knows; who lives in New Zealand, who is a trade unionist himself, and a worker—Mr. P. H. Hickey, general secretary-treasurer

of the United Federation of Labor of New Zealand, made on June 20, 1914:

"Let me say that I have read from time to time of your strenuous opposition to compulsory arbitration. Believe me, if you could see the curse it is in this young country with all its ramifications and oppression and repression your antagonism would be even greater. Here it is simply crushing the heart of labor and unless the repeal of some of the legislation is not swiftly secured in the direction of giving the right to the workers to use their own organizations in the direction the majority see fit, I am much afraid the result will be chaotic in the extreme.

"This from New Zealand, that has been heralded as the land of no strikes; that had solved the problems of industrial peace and justice! New Zealand, the 'land of industrial freedom,' passed a law on December 11, 1913, that provides a fine of \$100 or three months' imprisonment for workers found guilty of picketing!"

I believe that after hearing from Brother Hickey, who is on the job, our members will understand that compulsory arbitration, after all, is not the solution of the labor problem. We deny the charge that we are looking for strikes. The best proof that we are not looking for strikes is that at the present time our own International Union, for instance, has less than forty men on strike out of about fifty thousand members. If we were looking for strikes, we could have one in every city in the country of any importance every week of the year. We detest strikes. We hate them. We want no strikes and we will have no strikes if we can prevent them, but we want the right to strike against unjust conditions where our employers want to grind us down into the dust or destroy our unions that have done so much for us. The solution of this abolition of strikes, in my judgment, is the education of the employers to the necessity of meeting man for man, face to face, the representatives of the union and in an honest, straightforward manner, with justice in the fore-front, decide to be fair and render reasonable working conditions to their employes, meeting the arguments of the representatives of the unions, with other arguments to disapprove their position, if necessary, but at least be willing to do that which is right for those involved. This is the solution of the question. This is what will save the public from warfare and disastrous results from strikes. This education of the employers will make it unnecessary to enact compulsory legislation.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners are holding their convention in Indianapolis at this time. Their organization is in splendid shape. They have about two hundred and fifty thousand members in their International Union, and within the last two years they have paid out about seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars in death benefits and only one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in strike benefits, proving that they are doing more good than they are given credit for by our enemies—the employers—who are unfair to labor. The very fact that they are relieving the families of their deceased members is helping in the several communities in which their members have passed away. It takes a lot off the State; it reduced pauperism and in general helps toward making better citizens as a result of the benefits attached to their organization and the moneys dispensed by the organization, which has a

tendency toward destroying poverty that otherwise the State would be expected to take care of. General President Tobin addressed the convention at its opening.

We are informed through direct sources that recently through the efforts of President Gompers the two Steam Shovel and Dredgemen's Unions have been brought together through a form of amalgamation that has been mapped out and agreed upon. This is indeed of material benefit to the membership of these organizations and an added link to the American Federation of Labor. Also we understand that the Cigar-makers' International Union and the Stogie Workers, who have always been outside of the American Federation of Labor, have entered into an agreement that is satisfactory to both sides, another amalgamation that will result beneficially for the men working at this trade. These grievances and misunderstandings have been existing for years, but it takes time and education to heal up those old sores, and this healing process eventually takes place.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S WORDS

"I confess without shame that I am tired and sick of war. Its glory is all moonshine. Even success the most brilliant is over dead and mangled bodies, the anguish and lamentations of distant families appealing to me for missing sons, husbands and fathers. It is only those who have not heard a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded and lacerated that cry aloud for more blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell."

JUDICIAL CONTEMPT OF THE PEOPLE

Defenders of judicial sanctity have an unusually hard job should they try to defend the act of Judge Strong of Trinidad, Colo. This judge has summarily convicted of contempt and sentenced to fine and imprisonment two citizens of the State who exercised their constitutional right of circulating a petition for recall of another judge, named McHendrie. Technically the charge of contempt was based not on the act of demanding a recall, but on the statement of reasons for such action. But the State constitution specifically al-

lows petitioners for a recall to state their reasons for the information of voters. Strong's act amounts to a claim that judicial authority is higher than that of the people of the State. Such a claim is not new, but has never been so openly flaunted before. It is now for the people of Colorado to say whether a judge's contempt of their rights shall go unpunished.—Public.

The Edison Electric Company will be called to account for its opposition to organization among its workers, and the discharge of active trade unionists. At a meeting of the New England district council of electrical workers, at which every State in this section was represented, it was voted to support the local electrical workers in any stand they may take. It was declared at the meeting that men who are known to be members of a labor union are discharged from the employment of the Edison company for trivial causes which in another man would be passed unnoticed. It was also charged that any man seeking employment is asked about his affiliation with organized labor, and if he says that he is a union man, he is not given employment.

CORRESPONDENCE



LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—After reading our journal I could not help from trying to put before our membership the conditions that exist in Los Angeles. Local No. 208 is very little heard of, at least in four years that I have belonged to it I have never seen any writing about it in our Magazine. Perhaps our past secretaries thought that their letters were not welcome at the office of our Magazine on account of their poor grammar. I am very poor at writing, but I am going to risk it.

Local No. 208 has been going down hill for the last seven months, but I am glad to state that we are going up hill again, which I hope that before the first of May we will be thoroughly organized.

You must remember that Los Angeles is not an industrial city by any means. It is only great for its climate, and you can not eat climate. So you see when any one comes here and has no money he is going to work at anything he can get or at any price. So the first thing he does he goes to a barn and asks for a job. They will ask him if he is a teamster and he says "Yes" whether he is or not. The barn man will help him get out of the yard with his team whether he gets anywhere else or not. Mind you this man never asked what wages he was to get a day and the team owners are not going to tell him. At the end of two weeks or more he has found another job that he thinks is better than the one he has. He quits and goes to get his money then he finds out that he has been working for

\$2 a day and nothing less than twelve hours a day. In some cases they get \$2.25 a day. Even men that carry cards from other cities have done the same thing, and after they found out that we had a local here and we ask them to join the union here they say I am only going to stay here a week or two and then I am going north, and then they might work six months more or a year.

They take good care not to let us know what local they belong to. If they did I would notify their locals of the kind of union men they are. This is not only teamsters. You will find men doing the same thing from other crafts if they can not get anything in their line of work they will take a teamster job until they can get something else.

This is what we teamsters have to contend with. If the men that come here with cards in their pockets would deposit them in our local it would not be one-third as bad as it is.

Now, brothers, what do you think about it? I would like to hear a plan from some of the brothers how to remedy it.

Now, Brother Tobin, I hope that I have not taken too much space in our Magazine.

With best wishes to the International, I remain,

Fraternally yours,
PETER CARPENTER,
Sec.-Treas. Local No. 208.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—On July 20 I transferred from Hack Drivers, No. 116, to Chauffeurs, No. 129, and was elected secretary-

treasurer and business agent. At that time there were 225 names on the roll, but as the former secretary was driving every day and had not the time to give to his office that should be given and all the boys were young and had never been in a union before, many were behind in their dues and quite a number had never been initiated since going to work, but the boys are all paying up, some making weekly payments and others paid all at once. Those who had not been initiated have come in and paid all their back dues. We are taking in some new members at each meeting, and if business would pick up we would soon have one of the strongest unions in the city. Our membership is composed of livery and truck drivers, retail delivery, shop and garage men. The county hires all union men on its road trucks. The livery men are all fair except two and we will soon have them in and they will have to recognize us. Some of our boys have good, private jobs. We have been successful in getting the city council to pass an ordinance fixing prices to be charged for cars in livery and giving our drivers police protection in making collections, something we have not had before. For instance, if a crowd used a car all night and were mean enough to beat the bill the driver had no recourse but to fight, which is poor policy.

Our membership took an active part in the Labor Day celebration, which was the most successful one we ever held, both socially and financially. We had nine touring cars in line with fifty members and had the prettiest banner in the parade.

Every man has elected himself a booster for the local, as there are plenty of good men yet outside of the union and we have plenty of idle men that we are anxious to place. While I have been writing

all of this for the chauffeurs, I must say a few words for the Hack Drivers, No. 116, the boys who paved the way for the autos. There are only thirty-three of the boys left who have given up the best part of their lives to the work and have kept their end up in the union ranks and it is because they have made such a good impression on the public as union men and the record they have made as citizens of unquestionable character and the faithful service they have given their patrons is the reason that the chauffeurs are meeting with the success they are. This is not in self-defense, because I was a member of Local No. 116 for twelve years, but I feel grateful for having the honor of being a member and officer for such a noble bunch of men. It is to them that I owe thanks for the success that I have made.

I had the honor of being elected president of the trades council while a member of Local No. 116. Brother Wm. Hill was grand marshal in the Labor Day parade. I can truthfully say that he made the best we ever had. The officers of Local No. 116 rode in a decorated carriage drawn by four black horses that caught the eyes of all who are lovers of horses. All members rode in carriages.

With best wishes to all the boys,
I am, Fraternally yours,

JEFF FOREHAND,
L. U. No. 129.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—You will find inclosed a short story of the doings of Local 470 of Philadelphia:

On October 12, 1914, Local 470 will be organized two years, during that time the local has progressed with wonderful strides, considering the depression in all

lines of trade, skilled and unskilled. Then to climax it all, we have this terrible strife in Europe, which means the sacrifice of so many lives. Brothers, just think of it, lonely helpmates and fatherless children that will have to be taken care of. It is heartrending to think of it. This strife has a tendency to mar the progressing wheel of our industry. Local 470 in the two years' experience, has rendered yeoman service for her members by increasing their wages from 50 cents to \$3 and in some cases \$4 per week. This was all brought about by the continued energy and perseverance of our business agents who are always ready to arbitrate all grievances and adjust all differences in our barns, and with our employers. During the life of the present administration which took hold of the lines last January the funds have increased more than double the amount. This success is due to the untiring efforts of our executive board and business agents.

Yours fraternally,
GEO. A. TROUTS, Sec.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am writing to you once more in regard to our Local 181 of Springfield, Mass. We have a good, flourishing union built up and hope that the good work will keep up and I also want to thank the brothers of this local through our Magazine. They all have put their shoulders to the wheel and have kept it rolling and hope that they will keep up the good work.

When our local started we had forty-five members and now we have 243 members and we hope to add another hundred to that before the end of this year. The Central Labor Union of this city is certainly giving us a good lift and

doing all it can to help us along. Brother George Wrenn, the president of the Central Labor Union, is certainly doing all he can for us. I tell you that when the members of a local lay to the wheel they are bound to succeed. There has not been any trouble to amount to anything out here and I do think that when the time comes to make any demands that we will be in a position to get it without any trouble because we are going to build a good, sound organization and when the bosses know that we have a sound local there will be no trouble.

Hoping that I will be able to give you a favorable report each month after this, I beg to remain,

Fraternally yours,
WM. J. T. WRIGHT,
Sec.-Treas. and Bus. Agt.

CINCINNATI, O.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am taking the pleasure of writing to let you know how we are getting along here in "Cincy." We had a great turnout of teamsters in the Labor Day parade. I would like to inform you that we had the best bunch in the whole line of march. The boys wore olive-green shirts with white neckties and monthly working button pinned on a blue serge cap. We were headed by Smithe's famous band. We certainly did make them sit up and take notice of union teamsters in this man's town and if there had been a prize to be given away we certainly would have copped that prize. We had our new banner and our new silk American flag. This is the first time that the daily papers here gave us a good write-up. There was a good lot of boys in line. They were certainly a proud bunch of men and were stopped a few times by photographers to take a picture of them.

We have a few of the pictures here now and will send you one of them later which we would like to see appear in the Magazine so the brothers in the other towns will know that we are still on earth.

We have a lot of members out of work, but we expect to have them in the paid-up column in the near future. I know that the country is in a bad fix on account of the war.

I hope to see you in our town in the near future and the boys will all give you a hearty welcome when you arrive. We are getting along fine and expect to do a whole lot better next summer.

Well, I will close, hoping you and the rest are coming to see us soon, I remain, yours as ever,

THOS. W. KELLEY,

Rec. Sec., Local 100.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—On January 1, 1912, two years and eight months ago, I was elected secretary-treasurer of Excavating and Sand Teamsters, Local Union No. 506 of our city, under very unfavorable conditions, as our local, through the carelessness of my predecessor owed \$115 to a lawyer and \$497.50 in back per capita tax to our International Union. We only had a small membership when I took office but we had an agreement with the contractors' association to employ our membership and by diligent attention to business and the support of our Executive Board, we are pleased to report, through the medium of our Magazine, that we have always paid our honest per capita tax since my election and at the last audit of our International, we were able to draw a check to Brother Hughes for \$497.50 for back tax which places us in good standing, so our members are now entitled

to all the rights and privileges of the International Union.

Our average membership is between six hundred and seven hundred paid-up men and we trust that from this time forward we will continue to prosper and grow and be a credit to the American Federation of Labor, of which we are proud to be a component part.

In conclusion permit me to congratulate our general office on the magnificent financial report of \$156,000 in our treasury, which has been saved for the support of the rank and file of the members when involved in dispute to obtain improved working conditions.

Trusting this short note will be published in our next issue, showing what persistent effort can accomplish, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

DANIEL WEBSTER,
Secretary-Treasurer.

SCRANTON, PA.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—The labor hosts of Scranton took part in the great Labor Day parade and the teamsters were a part of it this year. For the first time in the history of Local No. 229, I. B. of T. C., S. and H. they came out on this great Labor Day, September 7, 1914. The Central Labor Union and its delegates held their picnic and in order to get the locals affiliated to come out, the following prizes were offered:

\$50 for the largest number in line.

\$50 for the best-appearing local in line.

Well, our members went after one of the prizes and came in second with members in line. The carpenters took first prize with some four or five hundred men in line. Then came Local No. 229 with its 310 men in line, and while it did not get a prize, the coming

out of those 310 members of Local No. 229 made some employers sit up and take notice of the coming local of this city. Outside of the miners the stock of our organization has gone up 100 per cent. since September 7, and when our agreements come to a close at the end of this year, it will be easier to negotiate new ones when the employers stop to think they have a strong organization to back them.

Well, the boys feel proud of the showing they made even if they did not get a prize.

Fraternally yours,

M. E. KANE, Sec.-Treas.

CIVILIZATION'S DISGRACE

Mid-West Magazine (Lincoln, Neb.), September.—We have been flattering ourselves that this is the greatest age in all the world's history; that this civilization of ours is the highest civilization the world has ever known. Yet this very day nations representing nearly one-half of the really civilized people on the globe are flying at one another's throats. Of the four most highly civilized and progressive nations of earth, three are engaged in a death grapple. We are sending missionaries to darkest Africa and benighted India and sleepy China and idolatrous Japan, our purpose being to teach them the gospel of love and peace promulgated by the Nazarene. And we who pretend to be so much better than the heathen are either witnessing or taking part in the most stupendous and most causeless war in history. If this is civilization, it needs fixing. If this is Christianity, we need a new religion.—Public.

The organization of labor—the most potent force in modern civilization—cannot grow steadily without the active co-operation and assistance of the rank and file of the trades union movement. It

cannot become the power which it is destined to be, in shaping social and protective legislation, without adding new recruits to the vanguard now paving the way for the uplift of labor by the influence of organization.

The working classes are, as a rule, not interested in any abstract questions governing the social relations of the human family. They evince no particular desire to study the books of philosophy and the essays of the ancient teachers of sophistry. What interests them most are questions which affect their material welfare—the rate of wages, hours of labor and better sanitary conditions in the factory and home.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

The power of the trades union movement for the promotion of the general welfare can be enhanced substantially by loyal adherence to the principles and policies, as outlined by the duly authorized delegates acting for the masses of organized workers. It is better to limit the scope of activities to the issues pressing for immediate solution, than the passing of numerous resolutions which fail to leave any impression in the minds of the leaders, and are totally ignored by the rank and file.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

When the organized labor movement first took up its activities, a favorite trick of the employers was to attempt to divide the workers along religious lines. While the sensible union men are fully alive to this early subterfuge, and refuse to be longer fooled by so mean and contemptible a trick, still there are some manufacturers and some workingmen who still resort to this despicable method of trying to divide the workers along religious lines.—Cigar Makers' Journal.

The strike in Stockton, Cal., resulting from the lockout of all trades, in which many of our members were involved, is still on. The manufacturers' association, which seemed to be determined to destroy labor unions in Stockton, is not making much headway. From the last reports received from Organizer Casey, the trade unions are holding their own and doing even better than that. When our last issue was published we had fifty men out of work as a result of the lockout. This number has been reduced to this extent, that at the present writing we have only about thirty-five men out, and all of the unions in the district are showing a more healthy condition than before as a result of the interest taken and the enthusiasm aroused by this uncalled for and unjust fight brought on by the enemies of labor.

There is a tendency on the part of many of our members to feel that because they are receiving fairly decent wages and other reasonable conditions, that there is no need of their showing the usual interest in their organization. This is a mistaken position for any one to take. Now is the time to be interested in your union because you may rest assured that but for your unions, with the industrial condition as it exists throughout the country, you would be suffering, or threatened with, substantial decreases in your wages. Look sharp and see to it that you attend your meetings and do everything in your power to strengthen your union. Especially are you requested to endeavor to purchase at all times articles bearing the union label.

Whenever we send the secretary-treasurer of a local union cards bearing the changed address of members of their local to whom we are mailing the Journal, sent to us by the postmaster, we demand that the secretary-treasurer or officers of the local union shall immediately answer the communication that they receive from the General President. At least have the common courtesy to acknowledge receipt of the communication and give us the desired information. It is not for our own special benefit that we take the trouble to send you this communication, but for the benefit of your members, as it costs some time and trouble as well as postage, and the least we should expect is a reply. I am sorry to say that there are many secretaries and local officers who are so far behind in their duties as to neglect giving the necessary attention to the communication and cards which they receive. Therefore, we ask that in the future you be more prompt with your answers.

Official Magazine

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of TEAMSTERS, CHAUFFEURS, STABLEMEN *and* HELPERS OF AMERICA

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OF

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